

Name: _____ Date: _____

PERSUASIVE ESSAY ASSIGNMENT

It is your task to write a persuasive essay. This essay should respond to a question about a controversial issue in a well-defended thesis, which is supported by evidence gathered through research.

Your essay will build upon the 5-paragraph structure that you've been working with since grade 9. Through this essay, however, you learn how to develop an introduction over the course of two paragraphs.

The essay should be between 3-5 pages, typed in 12-point font and double spaced. It must also follow MLA citation and presentation guidelines. Consult the "Essay Writing Tips and MLA Citation Guidelines" booklet to ensure you're doing this correctly. Citations must be embedded in the text, and all submissions must include a separate Works Cited page. Your process work (research notes, outline, peer edit checklist, and rubric) must be submitted with your good copy.

This assignment will be completed over the next two weeks. While there will be class time provided for you to work on this assignment, you are also expected to work on this outside of class. It is advised that you maintain a soft copy of your work in order to have it readily available both at home and school. You will go through the following stages with guidance from your teacher:

Stage #1 – Topic Selection and Research

The first step is to select a topic. Consult the "Persuasive Essay Topic Suggestions" handout for some suggestions. You may write about a topic that does not appear on this list, but be sure to discuss it with your teacher first.

Next, you will begin researching this topic. We will have one class in the Library or Computer Lab in order to do this. Use the "Note Making" handouts to record information from your sources. Remember to note **ALL** of the source information at the top of the sheet; you will need this information when compiling your Work Cited page. Use the appropriate source sheet for the medium you are working with. Your research will be collected with your essay outline.

There will be ONE class dedicated to this stage on _____.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Stage #2 – Essay Outline

Your next task will be to create a detailed essay outline. This will be collected with your research notes, and will account for 25% of your grade on this assignment. Your outline should be as detailed as possible, and you should consult the “Essay Writing Tips and MLA Citation Guidelines” booklet to include embedded citations when you cite your research.

There will be TWO classes dedicated to this stage, on _____.
Your essay outline is **due** at the end of class on _____.

Stage #3 – Creating a Rough Draft

Your marked essay outline will be returned to you. Use this outline, and the comments of your teacher throughout, to create your rough draft. Be sure to follow MLA citation and presentation guidelines. Consult the “Essay Writing Tips and MLA Citation Guidelines” booklet to ensure you’re doing this correctly.

There will be two class periods dedicated to this stage. A rough copy of your essay is due, in hard copy, at the start of class on _____.

Stage #4 – Peer Edit

During class on this day, you and a partner will edit a hard copy of each other’s rough drafts. It is imperative that you have a hard copy of your rough draft in class, at the start of this class, in order to partake in this process. It will be your responsibility to correct spelling, grammar, citation, format, and content errors on your partner’s rough copy, and to provide feedback (which will be evaluated) on a separate form. This process will account for 25% of your grade on this assignment, and the peer edit checklist **about your essay** must be handed in with your good copy.

Peer editing will take place during class on _____.

Stage #5 – Publishing a Good Copy

The last stage is to polish your rough copy and publish a good copy of your essay. You will have one class period dedicated to this process. You must also hand in your marked research notes, essay outline, peer edit checklist, and rubric with your good copy.

Your good copy is due, at the start of class, on _____.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The following rubric will be used to evaluate your work:

CRITERIA	LEVEL R (0-4 MARKS)	LEVEL 1 (5 MARKS)	LEVEL 2 (6 MARKS)	LEVEL 3 (7 MARKS)	LEVEL 4 (8-10 MARKS)
<u>Outline →</u> Generate, gather, and organize ideas and information to write for an intended purpose and audience	Outline is not submitted, is submitted but is partially complete, or does not contain a thesis, points and/or text examples which will not help to support a successful thesis	Outline contains a thesis which does not respond to one of the assigned questions, and points and text examples which will not help to support a successful thesis	Outline contains a thesis which somewhat responds to one of the assigned questions, and points and text examples which may help to support this thesis	Outline contains a thesis which responds to one of the assigned questions, and points and text examples which will help to support this thesis	Outline contains a well-developed thesis which responds to one of the assigned questions thoroughly, and points and text examples which will help to support this thesis
<u>Peer Edit →</u> Use editing, proofreading, and publishing skills and strategies, and knowledge of language conventions, to correct errors, refine expression, and present their work effectively	Rough draft is not complete or is partially complete for peer edit, student does not offer feedback for the essay they are reviewing, and/or does not incorporate feedback given into their own essay	Rough draft is complete for peer edit, student offers minimal feedback for the essay they are reviewing, and incorporates a minimal amount of the feedback they are given into their own essay	Rough draft is complete for peer edit, student offers feedback for the essay they are reviewing which is somewhat useful, and incorporates some of the feedback they are given into their own essay	Rough draft is complete for peer edit, student offers useful feedback for the essay they are reviewing, and incorporates some feedback they are given into their own essay	Rough draft is complete for peer edit, student offers thorough and useful feedback for the essay they are reviewing, and incorporates some feedback they are given into their own essay to a high degree
<u>Good Copy →</u> Recognize a variety of text forms, text features, and stylistic elements and demonstrate understanding of how they help communicate meaning	Essay is not submitted, is submitted but is partially complete, or is submitted but does not contain a thesis and/or is not supported by points grounded in examples from research notes	Essay contains a weak thesis and is loosely supported by vague points which are rarely grounded in examples from research notes	Essay contains a vague thesis and is supported by some points which are sometimes grounded in examples from research notes	Essay contains a developed thesis and is supported by several points which are grounded in examples from research notes	Essay contains a well-developed thesis and is supported by several points which are well grounded in examples from research notes
<u>Good Copy →</u> Draft and revise their writing, using a variety of literary, informational, and graphic forms and stylistic elements appropriate for the purpose and audience	Essay is not submitted, is submitted but is partially complete, or is submitted but does not meet any of the requirements in formatting and/or length, and contains several documentation, spelling and/or grammatical errors	Essay is submitted and contains few of the formatting requirements, is not the required length, and/or contains several documentation, spelling and/or grammatical errors	Essay is submitted and contains some of the formatting requirements, is almost the required length, and/or contains several documentation, spelling and/or grammatical errors	Essay is submitted and is in the required format, of the required length, and/or contains few documentation, spelling and grammatical errors	Essay is submitted and is in the required format, of the required length, and is virtually free of documentation, spelling and grammatical errors

Total: _____/40